THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) There are no reports of incidents of wild animals suffering from trypanosomiasis from any wildlife sanctuary. However 14 tigers in Nandan Kanan Zoo and 1 tiger in Hyderabad Zoo died during the last three years due to trypanosomiasis.

(b) The zoos keeping lions and tigers in their collection have been directed to carry out periodic screening against blood borne parasitic diseases and take preventive and prophylactic measures.

Effect of Global Warming

1083. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's atention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Global Warming will hit rive, wheat yields", appearing in the Hindu dated 2nd May, 2002;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the measures to be adopted to address problems highlighted in the news-item, to counteract the adverse impact of global warming?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The impact of global warming on rice and wheat yields depends upon a number of factors like species and cultivar; soil properties; pests and pathogens; direct effect of carbon dioxide on plants; air temperature; water stress; mineral nutrition; air quality and adaptive responses. The Inter Governmental Panel on Climate Change, which has been carrying out comprehensive assessments of potential impacts of climate change has projected in its Third Assessment Report published in 2001 that productivity of cereal crops in most cf tropical and sub-tropical Asia may decline with increases in temperature. Degradation of soil and water resources, processes that are likely to be intensified by changes in temperature and precipitation, would be amongst major challenges for agriculture.

(c) Various programmes and schemes of the Government including those relating to National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA), Soil conservation for Enhancing Productivity of

Degraded lands in the catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers, reclamation of alkali sols, Watershed Development Project in shifting Cultivation Areas (WDSCA), National Project on Development and Use of Biofertilisers, Promotion of Integrated Pest Management, National Project on organic farming, promotion of zero tillage and drip and sprinkler irrigation, contribute to addressing the potential adverse impact of climate change.

Extinction of birds of rare species in NE

1084. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the North-Eastern States were ones the habitats of many exotic and majestic animals and beautiful birds, which are facing extinction;

(b) if so, whether Government have enquired into this problem; and

(c) what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Large number of species that are listed in Schedule I of Wild Life(Protection) Act, 1972 are found in North Eastern States. Due to biotic pressure and loss of habitat there have been reports about decline in number of many of these species.

(c) The steps taken to improve the situation are—

- Funds have been earmarked for the North Eastern States under the scheme "Development of national parks and sanctuaries".
- Minister of Environment and forests had taken a meeting at Gahati regarding conservation of forests and wildlife in North Eastern States.

Funds to States for conservation of forests

†1085. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated by Government to States for conservation of environment and afforestation during the Ninth five Year Plans State-wise; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.